

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 181742

70

ORIGIN DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 H-02 PA-01

PRS-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 DPW-01 DODE-00

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EA/TB - MR ROBERTS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY MANILA MANILA

CINCPAC

JCRC BARBERS PT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181742

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: CASC, VS, UNHCR, ICRC

SUBJECT: AMERICANS IN VIETNAM

REFS: A) BANGKOK 20538; B) GENEVA 5602; C) GENEVA 5780;

-- D) GENEVA 5784; E) BANGKOK 20539;) STATE 180867;

-- G) STATE 169323; H) BANGKOK 20695

1. REFS A-C REPORTS HAVE NOW BEEN PUBLICLY CONFIRMED BY
CABLES TO SENS. KENNEDY AND MCGOVERN & REP. MONTGOMERY
REPORTED REF. F. ACCORDING TO THE VARIOUS PRESS RELEASES
BASED ON THE CABLES AS WELL AS TELCONS WITH UNHCR AND SRV
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PAGE 02 STATE 181742

EMBASSY PARIS, DEPARTURE IS EXPECTED AUG. 1 UNDER UNHCR

AUSPICES AND IS DESCRIBED AS INCLUDING THE REMAINDER OF THE "AMERICAN BLOC" IN SOUTH VIETNAM, PLUS THEIR DEPENDENTS.

2. CABLES DO NOT SPECIFY NUMBERS INVOLVED, BUT FROM REF-TELS AND CONTACTS WITH UNHCR NEW YORK WE ASSUME THIS WILL BE ON THE ORDER OF THE 29 AMCITS PLUS 12 DEPENDENTS REPORTED REF A. UNHCR SAYS NUMBER WAS ORIGINALLY 30 PLUS 20 FOR TOTAL OF FIFTY, AND HAS SLIPPED TO SOMETHING LESS, THEY KNOW NOT WHY.

3. AMERICAN RED CROSS IS CONTACTING NEXT OF KIN OF AMERICANS IN SVN WITH WHOM THEY HAVE HAD CONTACT TO ASSURE THEY ARE AWARE OF NEWS REPORTS. ARC WILL OBTAIN TELEPHONE CONTACTS AS WELL AS INFO ON POSSIBLE TRANSPORTATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WHICH WE WILL PASS TO BANGKOK.

4. IF POSTS RECEIVE FURTHER INFO ON NAMES, THIS SHOULD BE CABLED BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM. EMBASSY PARIS ADVISES THAT GOF IS PROVIDING TRAVEL DOCUMENTS IN SOME CASES AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO WE OBTAIN ON WHO IS COMING OUT, ESP. ON NON-US DEPENDENTS WHO MAY NEED FRENCH VISAS.

5. THESE REPORTS HAVE RE-KINDLED CONCERN HERE ABOUT CHILDREN, WIVES, AND OTHER CLOSE DEPENDENTS IN SVN OF AMCITS WHO ARE NOT IN SVN. NUMBERS INVOLVED WOULD INDICATE THAT THE EXPECTED DEPARTURE WILL NOT INCLUDE THE EIGHTY VIETNAMESE WIVES OF AMCITS REFERRED TO IN REF. E, AND MAY ALSO NOT INCLUDE CHILDREN OF AMCITS, MANY OF WHOM ARE REPORTED BY ICRC TO HAVE US PASSPORTS. (REP. MONTGOMERY IN HIS PRESS RELEASE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT DEPARTURE OF THESE KINDS OF DEPENDENTS AS WELL.)

6. FOR GENEVA: IF THERE IS ANY INFO ON AMCITS OR DEPENDENTS WHICH ICRC HAS NOT GIVEN US OR ARC, PLEASE ASK THEM TO PROVIDE IT ASAP. ARC IS MAKING SIMILAR REQUEST TODAY. RE YOUR REF. D, PLEASE FOLLOW UP WITH BAERISWYL WHEN HE GETS TO GENEVA. WE WOULD WELCOME HIS OBSERVATIONS IN GENERAL ON SITUATION IN SVN, AS WELL AS ANY THOUGHTS HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES MAY HAVE ON HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS SUCH AS DEPARTURE OF DEPENDENTS AND ACCOUNTING FOR MIA'S.
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PAGE 03 STATE 181742

7. WE CONCUR IN ADDITIONAL PRESS GUIDANCE PER REF H. ROBINSON

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